

DECEMBER 2, 1934

GUEST, DR. HARRY RAVEN

WJZ

AMERICAN BOSCH-RADIO EXPLORER'S CLUB

(
5:30 - 5:45 P.M.)

DECEMBER 2, 1934

SUNDAY

(SIGNATURE.. "SAILOR'S HORNPIPE"..... ACCORDION)

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT:

Presenting...the weekly meeting of the American-Bosch
Radio Explorer's Club.

(SIGNATURE OUT)

ANNOUNCER: Come sail the Seven Seas with us!

(WIND AND WAVE EFFECTS)

Explore the wild jungles of Africa!

(JUNGLE EFFECTS)

Visit the cannibal countries!

(TOM. TOMS)

Circle the globe with the American-Bosch

Round-the-World-Radio!

(GUST OF WIND)

CAPTAIN BARKER

Ahoy there, boys and girls! This is Captain James P Barker speaking. Rouse out Mother and Dad for today's muster of the American-Bosch Radio Explorers Club. By special arrangement of the American Museum of Natural History we have with us the famous gorilla hunter, Dr. Harry Raven, who has brought with him a very special guest - Meshie, his pet chimpanzee, who has promised to make a personal radio appearance a little later.

Dangerous business hunting gorillas! Personally, I'd rather face mutiny and fire at sea. Speaking of fire, reminds me of a day in 1905 when my ship the British Isles was bound to Chile by way of Cape Horn. We were two-hundred miles east of Rio de Janerio, when suddenly the boatswain rushed up the poop ladder. "There's fire down below, sir!" he shouted. "The coal in Number two hold."

"Mr. Rand," I said to the mate, "Call all hands. Get the Number Two hatch off!"

"Not this bird, Captain," he challenged, "this fire's likely to smoulder for weeks before we can dig down through the coal and get to it. No sir, you don't get me sailing 2,000 miles round Cape Horn in a fire ship! There's Rio under our lee - only two-hundred-miles away. You can square away and run for that port!"

This was no time for words - a mutinous mate and a lonely ship afire on the deep. Immediately hurrying below I took two loaded revolvers from a drawer, and returned to the poop.

"Mr. Rand", I said, jabbing the muzzles of both revolvers against his midriff. "I gave you an order. Now, sir, do we continue for Cape Horn - or is Rio still in your mind?"

"All right, Captain" he growled...and muttering to himself, he went below to carry out my orders.

It was five full days later that we reached a red hot mass of glowing coal deep in the bowels of the ship. This was hoisted on deck and hove overboard. And I may tell you boys and girls--those were five anxious days.

Well, on with our meeting! Meshie, the chimpanzee, is sitting on Dr. Raven's lap. Around Dr. Raven's waist is Meshie's long hairy arm. She's as big as an eight year old child and just as affectionate. Her brown eyes are watching everything and she's just as interested in the children here in the audience as they are in her. And now our good friend, Hans Christian Adamson, will interview Dr. Raven about Gorilla-hunting in Africa. Mr. Adamson!

ADAMSON: Thank you Captain Barker.
You know it's too bad Meshie can't make a little speech to the Radio Explorer's too. But maybe she'll consent to say goodbye to you at the end of the program. Meshie is getting to be quite a big Girl. How old is she anyway, Mr. Raven?

DR RAVEN: Oh, about six years and she weighs seventy pounds, but she hasn't really started growing yet.

ADAMSON: How big was she when you got her?

DR RAVEN: Oh just a year old. I found her in Africa clinging to a native who had killed her mother.

ADAMSON: And what were you doing? Hunting chimpanzees?

RAVEN: No, I was after gorillas.

ADAMSON: Gorillas! The apes that grow as big as men?

RAVEN: Oh, they don't grow as tall as men, but they are heavier.
We got one - a big male who weighed - 460 pounds... all beef and brawn...

ADAMSON: Gosh. What a fight a fellow like that could put up. Are they vicious?

RAVEN: [No, as a matter of fact, they're peaceful animals when left alone, of course, when they are irritated or cornered --- they'll fight, and then they're more dangerous than anything I know of.]

ADAMSON: Well, hunting Gorillas must be exciting and dangerous work.

RAVEN: [It is exciting and sometimes it is dangerous, but mainly it is hard work, especially, when you hunt Mountain Gorillas. They live in mountain forests so thick with underbrush that most of the time you can't see three feet ahead.]

(MORE)

RAVEN: (CONT'D)

I'll never forget the trouble I had once when I was trailing one. We had slashed our way through tangled vegetation when we reached the gorilla trail. You can always recognize those trails because the vegetation is trampled down, branches of small trees are broken, and stalks of wild celery are strewn all around.

ADAMSON: Dainty little things!

RAVEN: Dainty! You ought to hear them when they're feeding -- they grunt and groan and mumble all the time - like this

(SOUNDS)

ADAMSON: ~~You'd better look out, or Meshie will be joining this interview.~~ Did you find the gorillas?

RAVEN: Yes and no. We were proceeding through the tangled underbrush - We couldn't see a thing. There wasn't a sound. Suddenly, I heard a terrific combination of scream and roar - ~~like this - (SOUND)~~ and in the thicket right in front of us was the stamping of feet and crashing of underbrush. I knew a gorilla was rushing right toward us but I couldn't see it.

ADAMSON: Shades of King Kong! What happened?

RAVEN: That's the trouble. Nothing happened. I had my rifle aimed in the direction of the invisible gorilla. He was hidden in the dense jungle but he was coming toward us and he was coming fast. Suddenly, when he seemed to be about ten yards away he stopped and it was so still you could have heard a pin drop. We waited a minute or two and then crept forward but the gorilla had gone without making a sound.

RAVEN

(CONTINUES)

We followed his trail as rapidly as we could, when suddenly, without warning, he rushed at us again, and played the same trick, --- rushing forward, stopping suddenly -- and sneaking away. He bluffed us in that fashion seven times until he finally disappeared for good.

ADAMSON

A tough break for everybody but the Gorilla. Does that sort of thing happen often?

RAVEN

Indeed it does. You can follow GORILLA trails for weeks and have nothing to show for your work but a lot of fake attacks, scratches and aching bones.

ADAMSON

And a lot of excitement. Seems to me, Harry, that you've got to be sure of your shooting. What guns did you use?

RAVEN

Well, most of the time a 30-30 calibre rifle.

ADAMSON

Good! I was afraid that you might have tried some kind of fancy stuff like Jimmy Clark who peppered charging rhinos with buckshot, or Mrs. Martin Johnson who wanted to shoot an elephant with a flit-gun.

RAVEN

No! Nothing like that, but I did try an experiment with a 22 calibre rifle.

ADAMSON

Listen Harry - wait a minute. Why! a 22 calibre rifle is hardly more than a pop-gun! You couldn't kill a gorilla with that!

RAVEN

No! But, I drilled holes in the tiny bullets and stuffed them with potassium cyanide.

ADAMSON

But why?

RAVEN

Because I thought the powerful ~~poison~~ would give any gorilla I hit a quick and easy death. I was always afraid a wounded one might get away and suffer a lingering death. You must think of those things, you know, for one doesn't shoot gorillas just for sport.

ADAMSON And how did the 22 bullet work out?

RAVEN Not so well I tried it only once but either potassium cyanide is just a mild shot in the arm for a gorilla, or else the heat generated in the bullet by the shot disintegrated the poison. Anyway, it did not work.

ADAMSON Too bad, but say, Harry, so far, you have been talking about gorillas you didn't get, how about those you did get?

RAVEN Well - early one morning after a drenching tropical rain we started out for gorillas. The chase took us through masses of wet thicket, through forest so dark that it was like twilight. The going was so bad that we had to go in a doubled-up position and sometimes on our hands and knees. Suddenly, I caught a glimpse of a gorilla and heard a short bark like this - (SOUND) as he caught sight of us. I wondered when he would rush, but not for long. He came toward us but I lost sight of him in the dense brush. And it was the same old story. Nothing happened ... just then.

ADAMSON You mean the gorilla came to a sudden stop and sneaked away?

RAVEN Yes - and we went on - I was just stooping beneath a partly fallen tree when there was a terrific roar! He rushed down a steep slope straight at me.

ADAMSON Great Scot. What did you do?

RAVEN Well - I managed to get out from under the tree and fired, as I might have fired at a bird on the wing, without taking thorough aim.

(CONTINUED OVER)

RAVEN

(CONTINUES)

The bullet knocked the gorilla down and I shouted to the pygmies not to throw their spears. But they in turn shouted to me piga piga! "Shoot.....shoot."

ADAMSON

"Shoot!" .. but why, I thought you hit the Gorilla?

RAVEN

So did I - but in ordering the natives not to throw their spears I turned away. When they shouted "piga"! I swung back, and there, in front of me stood the gorilla. He looked groggy - like a boxer who is out on his feet, but even so, he was too close for comfort. So I fired again before he had a chance to come to, for I didn't want to get into a wrestling match with him.

ADAMSON

I should think not. How big was he?

RAVEN

Oh, he weighed about 460 pounds. He was black and silver-gray, as clean and well-groomed as if he had been combed only five minutes before. He was a noble creature and died a quick and painless death defending his family.

ADAMSON

I'll bet you didn't think of that while he was charging you!

ADAMSON: I'll bet you didn't think that while he was charging you. Well, thank you Harry, and here's hoping that expedition of yours to Burma will be as interesting as the one to Africa.

(APPLAUSE)

What do you say, Capt. Barker, wouldn't you like to go with Mr. Raven when he leaves for India on Tuesday.

BARKER: Indeed I would -- I guess we all would, but since we can't, you might at least tell us where our guest explorer is going to take us next Sunday.

ADAMSON: Next Sunday -- Why, we are going to South America with Dr. Ditmars to study snakes and vampire bats. And now the microphone is yours, Captain -- that is until Meshie, the Chimpanzee takes it away from you.

BARKER: Is Meshie going to say hello to the Radio Explorer's Club?

ADAMSON: Dr. Raven has gone over to ask her. She may speak over the microphone when you've finished.

BARKER: Well, I hope you can persuade her. You know this afternoon my captain's hat is off and in its place you'll find the familiar red hood of Santa Claus himself. For American-Bosch has asked me to play Santa to every member of the Radio Explorers Club and to everyone who becomes a member between now and Christmas.

Well, I've had a busy time of it looking around for a gift which would delight everyone of you. And I certainly believe I have found it. It's a globe of the earth ... a special Radio Explorer's Club revolving globe that shows the route of Lindbergh's New York to Paris flight. Turn it -- you can put your finger on any spot on earth.

(CONTINUED)

BARKER (CONTINUES)

The base of the globe is a ready reference log of world-wide short wave radio stations. It's going to be great fun to listen to a radio program in a land far across the sea, and then locate this country on the globe.

Now then, to get your Christmas-gift globe merely go to your nearest American-Bosch dealer and ask him for it. That's all there is to it! Be sure to have with you your membership certificate in the American-Bosch Radio Explorers Club which the dealer will accept as your identification as a club member. Children under 16 must be accompanied by a parent. If you are not already a member, get in your application right away, because the globe offer is for a limited time only.

Now here's Ben -- no -- my mistake -- it isn't Ben Grauer, but Dr Raven with Meshie, the Chimpanzee ... Is Meshie going to greet the Radio Explorer's Club, Dr Raven?

RAVEN: No, Captain -- she's going to kiss them good-bye, for tomorrow she's going to take a long trip -- out to the Chicago Zoo ... All right Meshie -- a kiss for the boys and girls!

MESHIE: (MAKES SOUND)

BARKER: There we are! That was fine, Meshie -- and now I'll turn the mike over to Ben Grauer and say clear sailing to you until next Sunday.

ANNOUNCER:

To join the American-Bosch Radio Explorer's Club merely send your name and address with the name and age of the radio set to which you are listening to American-Bosch, American B-O-S-C-H, Springfield, Massachusetts.

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Don't forget that everyone who enrolls receives the smart little club button, the handsome membership certificate bearing his own name, the authorized radio explorers map listing the locations of over 800 short wave stations throughout the world, AND the special Christmas opportunity to anybody in the United States to get - absolutely free of charge - the American-Bosch Radio Explorer's Club revolving globe about which Captain Barker has just told us.

Could any Christmas gift be more desirable than a trip around the world?... or even a trip to Europe? Well, hardly. Yet, without spending a great deal of money you too can experience the adventure of travel ... with an American-Bosch Round-the-World Radio. You can take your family and friends via radio this Christmas ... to Paris, London, Rome ... to countries all over the world. With their amazing new technical developments, the new 1935 American-Bosch Round-the-World Radios make foreign tuning easy and effortless.

These new, modestly priced 1935 American-Bosch radios will give your whole family years of solid enjoyment. Look and listen to them at your dealer's.

Now remember to join the American-Bosch Radio Explorer's Club, merely send your name and address with the name and age of the radio set to which you are listening to American-Bosch, Springfield Massachusetts.

(SIGNATURE FADES IN)

ANNOUNCER: Next week: Doctor Raymond L Ditmars, curator of Reptiles at the famous Bronx Zoo in New York City will be the guest of the American Bosch Radio Explorer's Club. He will be interviewed by Hans Christian Adamson. This is the National Broadcasting Company.